

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

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FORM NO. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **BOSTON**

FILE NO.

REPORT MADE AT BOSTON	DATE WHEN MADE 1/7-8-9-12/53	REPORT MADE BY CHRISTOPHER H. KOKOLAKIS
TITLE WILHELM LAMBEROS, aka, Valdemars Lamberg, wa. V. Vassoniadis, Saturne		CHARACTER OF CASE INTERNAL SECURITY - R & LA
SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: <p style="margin-left: 40px;">LAMBEROS is vice-president of the American-Latvian Association, an anti-Communist organization with headquarters at Washington, D. C. Informants familiar with Latvian activities in the U. S. as well as officials of American-Latvian Association consider LAMBEROS as anti-Communist. One informant advised LAMBEROS had reputation of collaborating with Russians during their occupation of Latvia but believes he is an opportunist and not a Communist. Officials of Latvian newspaper, "Latins," published in New York City, and anti-Communist, do not consider subject a Communist or pro-Russian. They advised ERNO KALINS and LAMBEROS have been accusing each other of Communist sentiments and believe their opinions are motivated by personal grievances arising out of political ambitions. <u>ALFRED BERZINS</u>, a former Latvian official in the U. S. interned in New York City stated he knew LAMBEROS in Latvia and was aware he collaborated with Russians in 1940 under duress. LAMBEROS definitely not considered a Communist by BERZINS. Information about KALINS' and LAMBEROS' activities in Europe set forth.</p>		
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As an example, BARACH pointed out that KALNINS had accused ALFRED BERZINS, a former Latvian official in the U. S., of being a pro-Communist.

Mr. BARACH stated that this was the farthest thing from the truth and that because of the many accusations that had been made by KALNINS and his newspaper, he placed little faith in the accusations that have been made concerning individuals that they believe to be Communists or pro-Russian.

Mr. LARSEN EPSTEIN, chairman of the Relief Department, Jewish Labor Committee, 85 East 70th Street, New York City, was interviewed by the New York Office. He advised, after checking the files at the Jewish Labor Committee, there was no information in the files pertaining to VOLINERAS LAMBEROS. However, Mr. EPSTEIN stated that he was aware that Mrs. BELLA MEIKSIN had turned over to IRVING SALERT certain letters pertaining to LAMBEROS. He stated that both Mr. SALERT and Mrs. MEIKSIN were no longer connected with the Jewish Labor Committee in New York.

Mr. EPSTEIN advised that IRVING SALERT is presently Labor Attache for the U. S. Embassy in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. He advised that Mrs. BELLA MEIKSIN is presently studying in Los Angeles, California, and her home address is 261 South Sahmy Drive, Beverly Hills, California.

Mr. ALFRED BERZINS of the Latvian Consultative Panel, 4 West 47th Street, New York City, advised the New York Office that he has known LAMBEROS for many years and he stated LAMBEROS was practicing law in Latvia prior to World War II. BERZINS stated that in 1940 when the Russians first occupied Latvia, LAMBEROS was forced by the Russians to work as an agent for them.

BERZINS stated that it was felt by those Latvians who remained loyal that LAMBEROS had only one alternative and that was to cooperate with the Russians or to go to Siberia. Moreover, BERZINS said he knew of no case where LAMBEROS caused any harm to his fellow countrymen. He advised that he has been in contact with the subject on many occasions in the U. S. and that he has never heard the subject make any pro-Communist or pro-Russian statements. BERZINS stated that it was his opinion that LAMBEROS is very anti-Communist in his feelings.

BERZINS stated he was Minister of Public and Social Affairs in Latvia from 1936 to 1940 and that he knew BRUNO KALNINS. BERZINS considered KALNINS to be a former Marxist who in 1940 was Military Commissar of Latvia under the Russians. BERZINS said that KALNINS today lives in Sweden and is known as a real anti-Communist now.

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in his relationship with the Swedish Government. In part, this is explained by the fact that the Swedish Government is dominated by the Social Democrats. It is also rumored that some Latvians are certain KALNINS derives his power from Communist interests. The latter belief is substantiated in part by the fact that KALNINS has no visible means of support.

Just as well as present opponents of KALNINS are the victims of vicious slander heaped upon them by KALNINS through numerous letters to influential persons and through a Latvian newspaper published in Sweden which he controls. Of particular interest may be the feud in progress at present between KALNINS and BERZINS. KALNINS claimed that BERZINS was one of the triumvirate who participated in the coup in 1934 and had opposed and exterminated all principles of democracy in Latvia. The apparent truth of the matter is that BERZINS, at present a member of the Latvian consultative panel of the NCFF (National Committee for a Free Europe) and a person who is convinced that KALNINS is in the employ of the Communists, is attempting to discredit him by all possible legal means. It is noteworthy that KALNINS was successful in accomplishing the removal of a member of this panel, one ABOLS, from, by means of discrediting letters sent to the head of NCFF. KALNINS has attempted to accomplish the same in regard to BERZINS but to date has been unable to do so.

Boston Informant T-7 also made available information pertaining to the background of VOLDEMAR LAMBERG which is set forth as follows:

On March 2, 1950, the Latvian newspaper, "Latvju Zinas" in Stockholm, Sweden, accused VOLDEMAR LAMBERG, editor of the newspaper, "Latvija" in Germany, of being a Russian agent for the MVD during the first Soviet occupation of Latvia (1940-41). Subject denied this, asserting that "Latvju Zinas" (a political opposition group newspaper) had always attacked the nationalist members of the Latvian Central Council, the Latvian National Council and the Latvian Central Committee. He stated he had been subject to several severe interrogations by the MVD from May 5, 1941 to June 9, 1941, and claimed this could be verified by arrest documents found in the MVD office in Jelgava, Latvia. He further stated he was active in the underground in the regional committee of Zemgale of the Latvian National Council. LAMBERG asserted that this could be attested to by KONSTANTINS GALETS, Chairman of the Latvian Central Council, and by the nationalistic Latvians at Jelgava. Further, LAMBERG stated that "Latvju Zinas" would have to answer to the law.